Title of My Paper

ABSTRACT: Here I will write a summary of my paper. (really brief)

KEYWORDS: *Keyword for this*

Title

Is there a “proper” accent for media persons? Some might say it is a Midwest United States accent. Is it fair to other regions of the United States that the media pushes people to use a Midwest accent while speaking on television, movies, or radio? Growing up in Michigan my whole life, which is in the Midwest depending on who you are talking to, I haven’t ran into the issue of dealing with an accent barrier in the majority of media unless it was a movie. The topic of actors, reporters, radio hosts, and even some political figures being taught how to use a Midwest accent is new to me. I find this topic very interesting and through some research many other people across the country do too.

(Dialect vs. Accent) The definition of accent is “a distinctive mode of pronunciation of a language, especially one associated with a particular nation, locality, or social class.” (Google Definition) It would be nearly impossible to count how many accents there are in the world because there are so many different languages and different regional tongues for the same language. Even in the United States there is a crazy amount of different accents for the English language. Some of the main ones are Northeastern, Southern, Midwestern, and Midland.

How have certain regions formed their accents

How foreigners are taught to speak English

How people view different accents

When did this become the standard accent

Actors being taught to speak in a Midwest accent

When I was young I never thought I had an accent when talking to people from a different region of the United States. Well it turns out that Midwesterners actually do have an accent to other regions, they say it is a whiney nasally sound. Michiganders are especially known for the nasally sound and I didn’t notice it until one of my friends brought it up in a conversation; now when I talk to people from Michigan, or near regions, I can actually pick up on it. In an article written by Lee DeVito, “Wait, we have an accent in Michigan?” DeVito talks about Michiganders having a harsh, nasal strain and gives an actual name for this accent. The accent is called Inland Northerner and it rose from the mid-20th century. The Inland Northern accent has a “short-a” rising (citation). DeVito also brings up the impact of this accent on the English language, “Linguist have pointed out that this vowel shift has changed aspects of the English language that have remained intact for 1,000 years.” At the end of the article DeVito says that the Inland Northern accent is dying out and he brings up a great point about the influence of mass Media and the Internet homogenizing our accents and erasing regional identities.

Are television and mass media destroying regional accents?

Is there an original American accent

Some people call it General American

Why is it important to think about these things